Approved For Release 2002/08/15 : CIA-RDP83-00415R010500210010-0 CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR(Ukrainian SSR) SUBJECT

DATE DISTR.

13 February 1952

PLACE **ACQUIRED**

Metallurgical Plant at Dneprodzerzhinsk

NO. OF ENCLS.

NO. OF PAGES

DATE OF INFO.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT TO

REPORT NO.

The plant is on the northeastern edge of Dneprodzerzhinsk (34037'E/48'30'N), Ukrainjan SSR, south of the Dnieper River, and west of a railroad car plant. (1)

- The blast furnace department had five blast furnaces but all of them were not in operation. The open-hearth plant had four furnaces, two in operation and a fifth under construction. (2) Hight railroad tracks entered the plant. Six of them ran over an elevated concrete structure 8 meters high and supported by pillars, to the raw material bins. At this point the railroad cars, containing raw material, were unloaded through openings in the elevated structure into mixing bins below. Included in the raw material was a red stone called Ruta.* There the charge for the blast furnaces was prepared and loaded into carts which tipped. The other two tracks were on an emben kment, 8 meters high and 80 meters wide, in the northern plant area.
- A total of 35,000 civilians including many women and 500 to 600 PWs worked in three shifts.
- Most of the pig iron produced in the plant was cast to so-called tongues, 60x25x10 cm, and shipped away by rail. The remaining pig iron was cast into molds, 1.7 meters long, 28 cm in diameter at one end and 25 cm in diameter at the other. In the rolling mill these slugs were processed into iron rods, sectional iron, rails and plates. (3)
- The new open-hearth department of the plant was being constructed 1 km south of the Dnieper River and 200 meters

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southwest of the Pravda Railroad Car Plant. It was bordered on the west and northwest by other plant departments. The construction site had to be cleared of ruins of a former open-hearth plant, which was destroyed according to the statements of Soviet convicts. In 1948, the area of the new open-hearth plant, (4)several hundred meters long and 100 meters wide was leveled and rolled. Holes, 2x2x2.5 meters, for girder foundations were dug out at intervals of 20 to 25 meters the length of the construction site. The bottom The bottoms of these holes were filled and fastened with slag, then concreted. The short side of the building had four such pillar foundations on which some pillars were set by September 1948. The outer pillars were 15 meters high and the inner pillars 20 meters high, both of double T The four foundations for the open-hearth furnaces were 22x50 meters wide and 8 meters deep.

6. Soviets said that the total workforce was 25,000 to 40,000 laborers. About 1,000 PWs, inmates of camp No 7315/8, worked on the construction of the new open-hearth plant.

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(1) The plant location, which is west of the railroad car plant according to all PW information; is confirmed and considered correct.

- (2) While previous information reported four blast furnaces, this report is the first to mention five. Five open-hearth furnaces, with two in operation, two not in operation and one under construction, coincides with previous information that there were five furnaces, four in operation and one in need of repair in the summer of 1947.
- (3) For a Soviet Zone newspaper picture of the new rolling mill, see Annex. Since this rolling mill is believed to be only one of a chain of mills (the plant has a total of eight in various buildings), the picture cannot be considered to cover the complete rolling mill installation.
- (4) The new open-hearth plant under construction is reported for the first time. It is believed that this installation will be the second open-hearth department of the metallurgical plant. A previous sketch shows that there was space for this new construction. This new construction is considered possible since the operation of four or five blast furnaces produces more pig iron than can be processed by one open-hearth plant with five furnaces. Since there are no statements indicating ruins of a former open-hearth plant, where, according to this report, the new one is being constructed, the information is doubted and needs clarification.

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Comments: Probably ruda(ore)

1 Annex: New rolling mill of the metallurgical plant in Dneprodzerzhinsk

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